

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

HB 2777 - SB 2842

March 1, 2010

SUMMARY OF BILL: Decreases the reporting standards for a fetal death from a fetal weight of 500 grams or 22 weeks gestation to 20 weeks gestation. Requires the Department to issue a certificate for a birth resulting in a stillbirth within 60 days after the parent submits a request. Establishes requirements for the request form and the information that must be included on the certificate of birth. Requires health care facilities required to file a fetal death certificate to advise parents of their rights to request and obtain a certificate of birth and establishes that the certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth will be a public record.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase State Revenue - \$4,000/Recurring
Increase State Expenditures – \$6,800/One-Time**

Assumptions:

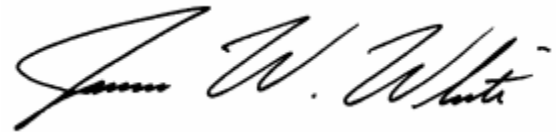
- The fetal death database system would need to be modified to include information pertaining to the issuance of a certificate of birth resulting in a stillbirth. Any cost incurred for these modifications can be accommodated within existing resources without an increased appropriation or reduced reversion.
- There will be a one-time cost of \$1,500 for a scanner in order to create an image of the original certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth for later retrieval or inspection as a public record.
- The Department will redesign the forms for facilities to report fetal death so that the facility can indicate that notification requirements were met. The Department estimates redesigning, printing, and distributing the new forms will result in a one-time increase in expenditures of \$5,300.
- Currently, there is no data to support fetal deaths less than 22 weeks gestation, unless the 500 gram weight is met. There are approximately 410 fetal deaths reported annually. It is estimated that the number of fetal deaths will increase to at least 500 and all will request a certificate of birth resulting in stillbirth. The increase in revenue is estimated to be \$4,000 at a rate of \$8 per certificate (500 x \$8).
- Determination of a facility's compliance with the notification requirements will be completed during the facilities regular inspection or through complaint investigations through the Board for Licensing Health Care Facilities. Any cost can be accommodated within the existing resources of the Board.

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- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-3-1011, all health-related boards are required to be self-supporting over a two-year period. The Board had deficits of \$440,300 in FY06-07 and \$217,700 in FY07-08. The Board's FY08-09 balance is not yet available.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "J" and "W".

James W. White, Executive Director

/kml